

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66624  
DRAFTED BY:S/S/O:JSWIHART  
APPROVED BY:S/S-O:MTANNER  
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R 270724Z APR 75  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO CINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 097833

EXDIS - HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOL LISBON 2399 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN LONDON MADRID  
PARIS NATO APRIL 26; REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 2399

EXDIS

DEPT PLEASE PASS USCINCEUR FOR INFO

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PO  
SUBJ: USG PUBLIC POSTURE ON ELECTIONS/SOCIALIST PARTY ATTITUDES

REF: LISBON 2396; LISBON 2398

1. MANUEL SA MACHADO, CHIEF OF CABINET TO SOCIALIST  
PARTY LEADER MARIO SOARES, SOUGHT OUT DCM LATE AFTERNOON APRIL 26.  
PURPOSE WAS TO PASS TO US INFORMALLY SOARES'S VIEW OF ELECTIONS  
RESULTS AND HIS TACTICS FOR FUTURE.

2. SA MACHADO SAID SOCIALISTS, ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE IN  
PORTUGUESE POLITICAL SPECTRUM, INTERPRETED ELECTIONS AS CLEAR  
VICTORY FOR SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) AND SOARES PERSONALLY. REALITY  
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WAS THERE FOR ALL TO SEE, SAID SA MACHADO, AND POLITICAL FORCES--

ABOVE ALL THE AFM--WOULD BE DRAWING CONCLUSIONS FROM IT. BUT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THESE CONCLUSIONS BE DRAWN OVER TIME, THAT THE RESULTS BE ALLOWED TO SINK IN, AND THAT POLITICAL LEADERS ANALYZE THE RESULTS COLDLY, SA MACHADO SAID.

3. SA MARHADO SAID THAT THE PS AT PRESENT WAS WORRIED ABOUT THE IMPACT OF ITS SMASHING VICTORY UPON THE AFM. SOCIALISTS SIMPLY DID NOT KNOW HOW AFM WOULD REACT. IN VIEW OF THIS, SOARES HAD DECIDED NOT TO GLOAT PUBLICALLY OVER SOCIALIST VICTORY, BUT TO USE IT WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AND, ABOVE ALL, IN HIS (AND HIS COLLEAGUES) MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL.

4. SA MACHADO SAID THAT SOARES HAD DECIDED TO REJECT OUT OF HAND EXPECTED COMMUNIST OFFER FOR JOINT ACTION PROGRAM. THERE WILL BE NO UNITY WITH THE PCP, ALTHOUGH THE SOCIALISTS WILL NOT MAKE ANTI-PCP NOISES IN PUBLIC. LIKEWISE, ACCORDING TO SA MACHADO, THE SOCIALISTS WILL NOT MAKE ANY FORMAL ALLIANCE WITH THE POPULAR DEMOCRATS. WHAT SOARES INTENDS TO DO IS EMPHASIZE SOCIALIST INDEPENDENCE AND POPULAR STRENGTH, WHILE CONTINUING TO BUILD THE PARTY'S MASS BASE.

5. FUNDAMENTAL FACTOR IN SOCIALIST THINKING IS HOW TO INFLUENCE THE AFM AND LEADERS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL. SOCIALISTS ARE FRANK TO ADMIT THEY DON'T HAVE THE ANSWERS, SA MACHADO INDICATED; HENCE THEIR WORRY.

6. SA MARHADO ALSO PROVIDED INSIGHT IN CURRENT SOCIALIST VIEW OF LEADING MIL-ITARY FIGURES. SA MACHADO QUERIED AS TO HOW LEADING MILITARY FIGURES SAW THIS SOCIALIST TRIUMPH, SA MACHADO GAVE FOLLOWING OPINION: (A) COSTA GOMES--DELIGHTED; (B) GONCALVES--VERY UNHAPPY, BET ON THE WRONG HORSE IN THE MDP; (C) ROSA COUTINHO--AN INTRIGUING QUESTION. SOCIALISTS, HOWEVER, WOULD LIKE TO WORK WITH ROSA COUTINHO. SA MACHADO TOLD US THAT SHORTLY BEFORE ELECTION, WHEN ROSA COUTINHO WAS TOUTING "NEW PARTY" BETWEEN PS AND PCP, MARIO SOARES DREW HIM ASIDE AFTER A MEETING AND SAID: "ADMIRAL, WHY ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN OUT-OF-TUNE BASS FIDDLE WHEN I CAN OFFER YOU A STRADIVARIUS?" ROSA COUTINHO DID NOT ANSWER, BUT CLEARLY SOCIALISTS BELIEVE CONFIDENTIAL

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THEY CAN WORK WITH HIM.

7. COMMENT: SOARES'S POSTURE REINFORCES MY VIEW EXPRESSED REFTELS THAT USG SHOULD STRESS VICTORY FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS IN PORTUGAL (HONESTY OF VOTE, LARGE TURNOUT, POLITICAL MATURITY, AFM FULFILLMENT OF PROMISE OF FREE ELECTIONS) AND AVOID EMBRACING VICTORIOUS PARTIES. CARLUCCI UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONAL OPINION, ELECTION RESULTS, NATIONAL ELECTIONS, COMMUNISTS, POLITICAL PARTIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchandr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE097833  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** S/S/O:JSWIHART  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750147-0975  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750412/aaaaaldd.tel  
**Line Count:** 114  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 75 LISBON 2396, 75 LISBON 2398  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchandr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2003 by buchandr>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** USG PUBLIC POSTURE ON ELECTIONS/SOCIALIST PARTY ATTITUDES  
**TAGS:** PINT, PO, (SA MACHADO, MANUEL)  
**To:** CINCEUR  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006